Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota continues to have one of the highest percentages of working mothers in the nation who rely on quality care for their children on a daily basis; and,

Whereas, At 47 percent, South Dakota has twice the national average of children under age 6 in paid child care; and,

Whereas, In South Dakota, 34,955 children are currently served in 909 registered family day care homes, 92 licensed group family day care homes, 154 licensed child care centers and 160 licensed before and after school programs; and,

Whereas, Licensed and registered child care creates over 4,400 jobs in South Dakota making child care increasingly vital to the prosperity of our economy; and,

Whereas, South Dakota's child care providers help to provide the foundation for our children's growth and development into productive adults; and,

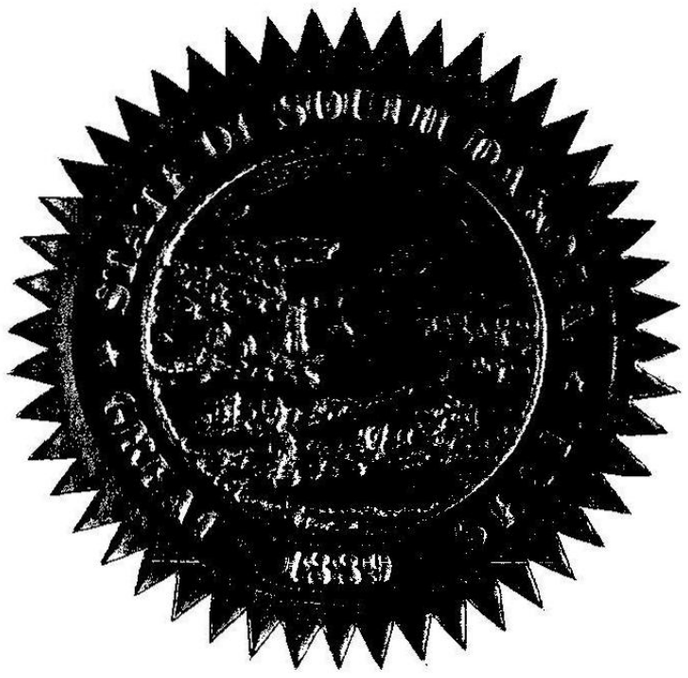
Whereas, The profession of child care is a noble calling and worthy of our appreciation and respect; and,

Whereas, The state of South Dakota will join parents and other organizations across our state in honoring its child care providers:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 12, 2006, as

PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

in South Dakota, and I call on all parents and child care professionals to continue to sustain the high level of care afforded to the children of this state.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State